

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending September 3, 2000**. Weather conditions throughout most of the state continue to be hot and dry. Soil moisture was rated 71 percent very short, 25 percent short, and 4 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Mature	98	93	98	92	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	84	69	78	55					
	Silage Harvested	97	90	97	88					
Cotton	Open Bolls	35	76	85	67	14	23	33	27	3
	Harvested	3	--	2	1					
Rice	Heading	96	90	97	97	1	4	30	54	11
	Mature	44	29	61	59					
	Harvested	9	3	15	22					
Sorghum	Turning Color	99	98	100	94	3	13	30	45	9
	Mature	93	85	95	80					
	Harvested	69	45	64	46					
Soybeans	Turning Color	72	52	75	52	16	26	29	23	6
	Shedding Leaves	55	37	54	32					
	Harvested	23	10	20	8					
Watermelons	Harvested	93	90	93	97	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	20	18	14	14	12	14	53	20	1
Cattle						7	21	38	31	3
Pasture						45	31	17	6	1

County Agent Comments

“Corn harvesting is virtually complete. Cotton and soybean harvest has begun. Yields will be down significantly. Cattle producers are selling cattle because of pasture conditions. Water is being hauled and hay is being fed to cattle. It appears that agricultural activity will be over early this year.”

— Tim W. Pepper, Yazoo County

“We are critically dry. Some surrounding counties have gotten some scattered showers but most of our county has not received any rain. The most critical area for us is grazing and hay production. We are going to be very short on hay this winter. I have heard that some peanut yields are good and that cotton yields should be good. Most yards and gardens are burned up.

— Lee Taylor, Forrest County

“Disaster!!! Daily highs exceeded 100 degrees every day last week. Pastures look like deserts and cattlemen are having to provide alternative water sources. Trees and fish are dying, armyworms are feeding on any grass they can find, cattlemen are running out of hay, and chickens are dying. We need rain and cooler temperatures.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones County

“If a match fell out on one end of the county, the fire would stop at the other end! Cattlemen are feeding hay, and the hay fields being cut are dying. Corn cut respectably with yields in the 90-130 bushel range dryland. Early beans are cutting 30-40 bushels per acre.”

— StephenWinters, Grenada County

Weather Summary from August 28, 2000 to September 3, 2000 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	102	55	85	78	+ 7	0.00	-0.69	0	0.00	90	82	86	0.32
Cleveland	106	68	88			0.00		0	0.00				
Tunica	106	74	90	77	+ 13	0.00	-0.66	0	0.00	96	83	88	0.33
Extreme/Average	106	55	88	78	+ 10	0.00	-0.67	0	0.00	96	82	87	0.30
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	105	64	84	76	+ 8	0.00	-0.83	0	0.95	97	80	89	0.33
Memphis	107	77	91	79	+ 12	0.00	-0.82	0	0.18				
Oxford	105	70	87	76	+ 11	0.00	-0.80	0	0.97				
Extreme/Average	107	64	87	77	+ 10	0.00	-0.79	0	0.96	97	80	89	0.33
3. Northeast													
Booneville	104	72	86	77	+ 9	0.00	-0.77	0	0.09				
Corinth	103	69	85	77	+ 8	0.00	-0.77	0	0.25				
Iuka	102	65	82			0.00		0	0.08				
Pontotoc	104	71	86	77	+ 9	0.00	-0.76	0	1.88	91	81	86	0.30
Tupelo	106	72	87	78	+ 9	0.02	-0.72	1	1.39				
Verona	106	71	87			0.00		0	0.33	98	82	90	0.37
Extreme/Average	106	65	86	77	+ 9	0.00	-0.80	0	0.67	98	81	88	0.33
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	106	74	89	79	+ 10	0.00	-0.62	0	0.78	106	93	99	
Greenwood	106	68	87	79	+ 8	0.00	-0.63	0	0.31				
Rolling Fork	106	68	88	79	+ 9	0.00	-0.58	0	0.39	110	91	100	0.29
Stoneville	105	66	87	79	+ 8	0.00	-0.62	0	0.00	102	85	93	0.31
Yazoo City	105	71	88	80	+ 8	0.00	-0.69	0	1.45				
Extreme/Average	106	66	88	79	+ 9	0.00	-0.62	0	0.59	110	85	97	0.30
5. Central													
Carthage				79		0.07	-0.69	1	2.26				
Jackson	107	70	88	79	+ 9	0.00	-0.84	0	0.15				
Winona	103	65	84	77	+ 7	0.00	-0.78	0	0.00				
Extreme/Average	107	65	86	78	+ 8	0.02	-0.75	0	0.80				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	104	72	88			0.51	-0.28	1	1.96	98	77	86	
Columbus	106	70	87			0.00		0	0.43				
State University	106	70	87	79	+ 8	0.00	-0.80	0	0.14	97	87	92	0.34
Extreme/Average	106	70	87	78	+ 9	0.17	-0.62	0	0.84	98	77	89	0.34
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	106	70	88			0.32		1	1.04	103	82	94	
Natchez	104	66	86	80	+ 6	0.00	-0.84	0	0.80				
Oakley	109	68	88	79	+ 9	0.00	-0.73	0	0.27	112	86	97	
Vicksburg	106	68	89			0.00		0	0.49				
Extreme/Average	109	66	88	79	+ 9	0.08	-0.76	0	0.65	112	82	95	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	105	70	87	80	+ 7	1.69	+0.51	4	4.11				
McComb	106	70	88	79	+ 9	0.06	-1.06	1	5.84				
Extreme/Average	106	70	87	79	+ 8	0.88	-0.11	3	4.98				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						E0.63		3	3.00				
Hattiesburg	104	68	86	80	+ 6	0.56	-0.47	2					
Laurel	104	69	85	80	+ 5	0.22	-0.79	3	1.12				
Meridian	106	69	87	79	+ 8	0.00	-0.78	0	1.14				
Newton	107	62	85	78	+ 7	0.05	-0.85	1	0.72	97	79	88	0.28
Extreme/Average	107	62	86	79	+ 7	E0.21	-0.70	2	1.49	97	79	88	0.28
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	101	70	86			0.71		1	3.57				
Biloxi AFB	104	75	88			2.64		3	5.50				
Gulfport	101	71	86	81	+ 5	1.91	+0.52	4	5.66				
Pascagoula						E0.64		3	6.26				
Poplarville	103	69	87	80	+ 7	1.30	+0.11	3	2.80	104	76	89	0.23
Extreme/Average	104	69	86	81	+ 5	E1.44	+0.04	3	4.76	104	76	89	0.23
State	109	55	87	79	+ 8	E0.25	-0.60	1	1.50	112	76	91	0.33

DFN = Departure from Normal.

'E' = Estimated Value